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## RANDOM FIXED POINT THEOREMS AND APPLICATION IN $S_b$ METRIC SPACES

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**Abstract.** In this paper we give some applications to integral equations as well as homotopy theory via random fixed point theorems in partially ordered complete  $S_b$ -metric spaces by using generalized contractive conditions. We also give some example in supports of our main result. Our obtained results generalized some previous known results.

**Keywords:** random fixed point;  $\sigma$ -algebra; measurable space;  $S_b$ -metric space; w-compatible pairs;  $S_b$ -completeness.

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### 1. INTRODUCTION AND PRELIMINARIES

Banach contraction principle in metric spaces is one of the most important results in fixed theory and nonlinear analysis in general. Since 1922, when Stefan Banach [1] formulated the concept of contraction and posted a famous theorem, scientists around the world have published new results related to the generalization of a metric space or with contractive mappings. Banach contraction principle is considered to be the initial result of the study of fixed point theory in metric spaces.

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In the year 1989, Bakhtin introduced the concept of  $b$ -metric spaces as a generalization of metric spaces [6]. Later several authors proved so many results on  $b$ -metric spaces (see [13, 14, 15, 16]). Mustafa and Sims defined the concept of a generalized metric space which is called a  $G$ -metric space [12]. Sedghi, Shobe and Aliouche gave the notion of an  $S$ -metric space and proved some fixed point theorems for a self-mapping on a complete  $S$ -metric space [22]. Aghajani, Abbas and Roshan presented a new type of metric which is called  $G_b$ -metric and studied some properties of this metric [2]. Recently Sedghi et al. [20] defined  $S_b$ -metric spaces using the concept of  $S$ -metric spaces [22].

The aim of this paper is to prove some unique fixed point theorems for generalized contractive conditions in complete  $S_b$ -metric spaces. Also, we give applications to integral equations as well as homotopy theory. Throughout this paper  $R$ ,  $R^+$  and  $N$  denote the sets of all real numbers, non-negative real numbers and positive integers, respectively. First we recall some definitions, lemmas and examples.

**Definition 1.** [22] *Let  $X$  be a non-empty set. An  $S$ -metric on  $X$  is a function  $S : X^3 \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$  that satisfies the following conditions for each  $x, y, z, a \in X$  :*

- (S1):  $0 < S(x, y, z)$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$  with  $x \neq y \neq z \neq x$ ,
- (S2):  $S(x, y, z) = 0$  if and only if  $x = y = z$ ,
- (S3):  $S(x, y, z) \leq S(x, x, a) + S(y, y, a) + S(z, z, a)$  for all  $x, y, z, a \in X$ .

*Then the pair  $(X, S)$  is called an  $S$ -metric space.*

**Definition 2.** [20] *Let  $X$  be a non-empty set and  $b \geq 1$  be a given real number. Suppose that a mapping  $S_b : X^3 \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  is a function satisfying the following properties:*

- ( $S_b$ 1) :  $0 < S_b(x, y, z)$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$  with  $x \neq y \neq z \neq x$ ,
- ( $S_b$ 2) :  $S_b(x, y, z) = 0$  if and only if  $x = y = z$ ,
- ( $S_b$ 3) :  $S_b(x, y, z) \leq b(S_b(x, x, a) + S_b(y, y, a) + S_b(z, z, a))$  for all  $x, y, z, a \in X$ .

*Then the function  $S_b$  is called an  $S_b$ -metric on  $X$  and the pair  $(X, S_b)$  is called an  $S_b$ -metric space.*

**Remark 3.** [20] *It should be noted that the class of  $S_b$ - metric spaces is effectively larger than that of  $S$ - metric spaces. Indeed each  $S$ - metric space is an  $S_b$ - metric space with  $b = 1$ . The following example shows that an  $S_b$ - metric on  $X$  need not be an  $S$ -metric on  $X$ .*

**Example 4.** [20] *Let  $(X, S)$  be an  $S$ -metric space and  $S_*(x, y, z) = S(x, y, z)^p$ , where  $p > 1$  is a real number. Note that  $S_*$  is an  $S_b$ - metric with  $b = 2^{2(p-1)}$ . Also,  $(X, S_*)$  is not necessarily an  $S$ - metric space.*

**Definition 5.** [20] *Let  $(X, S_b)$  be an  $S_b$ - metric space. Then, for  $x \in X, r > 0$ , we define the open ball  $B_{S_b}(x, r)$  and the closed ball  $B_{S_b}[x, r]$  with center  $x$  and radius  $r$  as follows, respectively:*

$$B_{S_b}(x, r) = \{y \in X : S_b(y, y, x) < r\},$$

$$B_{S_b}[x, r] = \{y \in X : S_b(y, y, x) \leq r\}.$$

**Lemma 6.** [20] *In an  $S_b$ - metric space, we have*

$$S_b(x, x, y) \leq bS_b(y, y, x)$$

and

$$S_b(y, y, x) \leq bS_b(x, x, y).$$

**Lemma 7.** [20] *In an  $S_b$ - metric space, we have*

$$S_b(x, x, z) \leq 2bS_b(x, x, y) + b^2S_b(y, y, z).$$

**Definition 8.** [20] *If  $(X, S_b)$  is an  $S_b$ - metric space, a sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in  $X$  is said to be:*

(1)  *$S_b$ - Cauchy sequence if, for each  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists  $n_0 \in \mathcal{N}$  such that  $S_b(x_n, x_n, x_m) < \varepsilon$  for each  $m, n \geq n_0$ .*

(2)  *$S_b$ - convergent to a point  $x \in X$  if, for each  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists a positive integer  $n_0$  such that  $S_b(x_n, x_n, x) < \varepsilon$  or  $S_b(x, x, x_n) < \varepsilon$  for all  $n \geq n_0$ , and we denote  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x$ .*

**Definition 9.** [20] *An  $S_b$ - metric space  $(X, S_b)$  is called complete if every  $S_b$ - Cauchy sequence is  $S_b$ - convergent in  $X$ .*

**Lemma 10.** [20] *If  $(X, S_b)$  is an  $S_b$ - metric space with  $b \geq 1$ , and suppose that  $\{x_n\}$  is  $S_b$ - convergent to  $x$ , then we have*

$$(i) \quad \frac{1}{2b} S_b(y, x, x) \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_b(y, y, x_n) \leq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_b(y, y, x_n) \leq 2b S_b(y, y, x)$$

and

$$(ii) \quad \frac{1}{b^2} S_b(x, x, y) \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_b(x_n, x_n, y) \leq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_b(x_n, x_n, y) \leq b^2 S_b(x, x, y)$$

for all  $y \in X$ . In particular, if  $x = y$ , then we have  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_b(x_n, x_n, y) = 0$ .

## 2. RANDOM VARIABLE

If  $X$  is a metric space, we shall use  $B(X)$  to denote the Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra on  $X$ . Let  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F})$  be a measurable space. The expression  $f \otimes B(X)$  denotes the smallest  $\sigma$ -algebra on  $\Omega \times X$  which contains all the sets  $Q \times S$ , where  $Q \in \mathcal{F}$  and  $S \in B(X)$ . Given a topological space  $E$ , we denote

$$\mathcal{P}(E) = \{Y \subset E : Y \neq \emptyset\}, \mathcal{P}_{cl}(E) = \{Y \in \mathcal{P}(E) : Y \text{ closed}\}.$$

Let  $f : X \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(Y)$  be a multivalued map. A single-valued map  $\bar{f} : X \rightarrow Y$  is said to be a selection of  $f$  (and we write  $\bar{f} \subset f$ ) whenever  $\bar{f}(x) \in f(x)$  for every  $x \in X$ . Let  $(\Omega, \Sigma)$  be a measurable space and  $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(X)$  a multivalued mapping,  $f$  is called measurable if

$$f_+^{-1}(Q) = \{\omega \in \Omega : f(\omega) \subset Q\}$$

is measurable for every  $Q \in \mathcal{P}_{cl}(X)$ ; equivalently, for every  $U$  open subset of  $X$ , the set

$$f_-^{-1}(U) = \{\omega \in \Omega : F(\omega) \cap U \neq \emptyset\}$$

is measurable.

**Proposition 11.** [22] *Let  $(\Omega, \mathcal{U})$  be a measurable space and  $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathcal{P}_{cl}(X)$  be a multivalued map. If, for every  $C \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ , we have  $f_-^{-1}(C) \in \mathcal{U}$ , then  $f$  is measurable.*

**Definition 12.** *Recall that a mapping  $f : \Omega \times X \rightarrow X$  is said to be a random operator if, for any  $x \in X$ ,  $f(\cdot, x)$  is measurable.*

**Definition 13.** *A random fixed point of  $f$  is a measurable function  $y : \Omega \rightarrow X$  such that*

$$y(\omega) = f(\omega, y(\omega)) \quad \text{for all } \omega \in \Omega.$$

Equivalently, it is a measurable selection for the multivalued map  $\text{Fix } f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(X)$  defined by

$$\text{Fix } f(\omega) = \{x \in X : x = f(\omega, x)\}, \quad \omega \in \Omega.$$

**Theorem 14.** ([23], Theorem 6.1) *Let  $X$  be a separable metric space,  $Y$  a metric space and  $f : \Omega \times X \rightarrow Y$  a continuous random operator. Then  $f$  is a measurable random operator.*

**Theorem 15.** *Let  $(\Omega, \Sigma)$  be a measurable space,  $Y$  be a separable metric space, and  $\phi : \Omega \rightarrow \mathcal{P}_{cl}(Y)$  be a measurable multivalued function. Then  $\phi$  has a measurable selection.*

Let  $X, Y$  be two locally compact metric spaces and  $f : \Omega \times X \rightarrow Y$ . By  $C(X, Y)$ , we denote the space of continuous functions from  $X$  into  $Y$  endowed with the compact-open topology.

**Lemma 16.** [24]  *$f$  is a Carathéodory function if and only if  $\omega \rightarrow r(\omega)(\cdot) = f(\omega, \cdot)$  is a measurable function from  $\Omega$  to  $C(X, Y)$ .*

Now we prove our main results.

### 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

**Definition 17.** *Let  $(\Omega, f)$  be a measurable space,  $(X, S_b, \preceq)$  be a separable partially ordered complete  $S_b$ -metric space which is said to be regular if every two random variables  $x, y : \Omega \rightarrow X$  are comparable,*

$$\text{either } x(\omega) \preceq y(\omega) \text{ or } y(\omega) \preceq x(\omega).$$

**Definition 18.** *Let  $(\Omega, f)$  be a measurable space,  $(X, S_b, \preceq)$  be a separable partially ordered complete  $S_b$ -metric space which is also regular; let  $f : \Omega \times X \rightarrow X$  be a mapping. We say that  $f$  satisfies  $(\psi, \phi)$ -contraction if there exist  $\psi, \phi : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  such that*

$$(3.2.1): f \text{ is non-decreasing,}$$

$$(3.2.2): \Psi \text{ is continuous, monotonically non-decreasing and } \phi \text{ is lower semi-continuous,}$$

$$(3.2.3): \psi(t) = 0 = \phi(t) \text{ if and only if } t = 0,$$

$$(3.2.4):$$

$$\psi(4b^4 S_b(f(\omega, x), f(\omega, x), f(\omega, y))) \leq \psi(M_f^i(x(\omega), y(\omega))) - \phi(M_f^i(x(\omega), y(\omega))),$$

for all  $(\omega, x), (\omega, y) \in (\Omega \times X), x(\omega) \preceq y(\omega), i = 3, 4, 5$  and

$$M_f^5((\omega, x), (\omega, y)) = \max \left\{ S_b(x(\omega), x(\omega), y(\omega)), S_b(x(\omega), x(\omega), f(\omega, x)), S_b(y(\omega), y(\omega), f(\omega, y)), \right. \\ \left. S_b(x(\omega), x(\omega), f(\omega, y)), S_b(y(\omega), y(\omega), f(\omega, x)) \right\},$$

$$M_f^4(x(\omega), y(\omega)) = \max \left\{ S_b(x(\omega), x(\omega), y(\omega)), S_b(x(\omega), x(\omega), f(\omega, x)), S_b(y(\omega), y(\omega), f(\omega, y)), \right. \\ \left. \frac{1}{4b^4} [S_b(x(\omega), x(\omega), f(\omega, y)) + S_b(y(\omega), y(\omega), f(\omega, x))] \right\},$$

$$M_f^3(x(\omega), y(\omega)) = \max \left\{ S_b(x(\omega), x(\omega), y(\omega)), \frac{1}{4b^4} [S_b(x(\omega), x(\omega), f(\omega, x)) + S_b(y(\omega), y(\omega), f(\omega, y))], \right. \\ \left. \frac{1}{4b^4} [S_b(x(\omega), x(\omega), f(\omega, y)) + S_b(y(\omega), y(\omega), f(\omega, x))] \right\}.$$

**Definition 19.** Let  $(\Omega, f)$  be a measurable space,  $(X, S_b, \preceq)$  be a separable partially ordered set and  $f$  is a mapping from  $\Omega \times X$  into  $X$ . We say that  $f$  is non-decreasing if for every  $x, y : \Omega \rightarrow X$ ,

$$(3.1) \quad x(\omega) \preceq y(\omega) \text{ implies that } f(\omega, x) \preceq f(\omega, y).$$

for all  $\omega \in \Omega$ .

**Theorem 20.** Let  $(\Omega, f)$  be a measurable space,  $(X, S_b, \preceq)$  be a separable partially ordered  $S_b$  metric space, which is also regular, and let  $f : \Omega \times X \rightarrow X$  satisfy  $(\psi, \phi)$ -contraction with  $i = 5$ . If there exists  $x_0 : \Omega \rightarrow X$  with  $x_0(\omega) \preceq f(\omega, x_0)$ , then  $f$  has a unique random fixed point.

*Proof.* If for each  $\omega \in \Omega$ , since  $f$  is a mapping from  $\Omega \times X$  into  $X$ , there exists a sequence  $\{x_n(\omega)\}$  of elements of  $X$  such that

$$x_{n+1}(\omega) = f(\omega, x_n), \quad n = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Case (i): If  $x_n(\omega) = x_{n+1}(\omega)$ , then  $x_n(\omega)$  is a random fixed point of  $f$ .

Case (ii): Suppose  $x_n(\omega) \neq x_{n+1}(\omega) \forall n$ .

Since  $x_0(\omega) \preceq f(\omega, x_0) = x_1(\omega)$  and  $f$  is non-decreasing, it follows that

$$x_0(\omega) \preceq f(\omega, x_0) \preceq f^2(\omega, x_0) \preceq f^3(\omega, x_0) \preceq \dots \preceq f^n(\omega, x_0) \preceq f^{n+1}(\omega, x_0) \preceq \dots$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned} \psi(4b^4 S_b(f(\omega, x_0), f(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0))) &= \psi(4b^4 S_b(f(\omega, x_0), f(\omega, x_0), f x_1)) \\ &\leq \psi(M_f^5(x_0(\omega), x_1(\omega))) - \phi(M_f^5(x_0(\omega), x_1(\omega))), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} &M_f^5(x_0(\omega), x_1(\omega)) \\ &= \max \left\{ \begin{array}{l} S_b(x_0(\omega), x_0(\omega), x_1(\omega)), S_b(x_0(\omega), x_0(\omega), f(\omega, x_0)), S_b(x_1(\omega), x_1(\omega), f(\omega, x_1)) \\ S_b(x_0(\omega), x_0(\omega), f^2(\omega, x_0)), S_b(f(\omega, x_0), f(\omega, x_0), f(\omega, x_0)) \end{array} \right\} \\ &= \max \{ S_b(x_0(\omega), x_0(\omega), f(\omega, x_0)), S_b(f(\omega, x_0), f(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0)), S_b(x_0(\omega), x_0(\omega), f^2(\omega, x_0)) \}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} &\psi(4b^4 S_b(f(\omega, x_0), f(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0))) \\ &\leq \psi(\max \{ S_b(x_0(\omega), x_0(\omega), f(\omega, x_0)), S_b(f(\omega, x_0), f(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0)), S_b(x_0(\omega), x_0(\omega), f^2(\omega, x_0)) \}) \\ &\quad - \phi(\max \{ S_b(x_0(\omega), x_0(\omega), f(\omega, x_0)), S_b(f(\omega, x_0), f(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0)), S_b(x_0(\omega), x_0(\omega), f^2(\omega, x_0)) \})) \\ &\leq \psi(\max \{ S_b(x_0(\omega), x_0(\omega), f(\omega, x_0)), S_b(f(\omega, x_0), f(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0)), S_b(x_0(\omega), x_0(\omega), f^2(\omega, x_0)) \}). \end{aligned}$$

By the definition of  $\Psi$ , we have that

$$(3.2) \quad S_b(f(\omega, x_0), f(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0)) \leq \max \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{1}{4b^4} S_b(x_0(\omega), x_0, f(\omega, x_0)) \\ \frac{1}{4b^4} S_b(f(\omega, x_0), f(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0)) \\ \frac{1}{4b^4} S_b(x_0(\omega), x_0(\omega), f^2(\omega, x_0)) \end{array} \right\}.$$

But

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{1}{4b^4} S_b(x_0(\omega), x_0(\omega), f^2(\omega, x_0)) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4b^4} [2b S_b(x_0(\omega), x_0(\omega), f(\omega, x_0)) + b^2 S_b(f(\omega, x_0), f(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0))] \\ &\leq \max \left\{ \frac{1}{b^3} S_b(x_0(\omega), x_0(\omega), f(\omega, x_0)), \frac{1}{2b^2} S_b(f(\omega, x_0), f(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0)) \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

From 3.2 we have that

$$(3.3) \quad \begin{aligned} &S_b(f(\omega, x_0), f(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0)) \\ &\leq \max \left\{ \frac{1}{b^3} S_b(x_0(\omega), x_0(\omega), f(\omega, x_0)), \frac{1}{2b^2} S_b(f(\omega, x_0), f(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0)) \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

If  $\frac{1}{2b^2} S_b(f(\omega, x_0), f(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0))$  is maximum, we get a contradiction. Hence

$$(3.4) \quad S_b(f(\omega, x_0), f(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0)) \leq \frac{1}{b^3} S_b(x_0(\omega), x_0(\omega), f(\omega, x_0)).$$

Also

$$\begin{aligned} \psi(4b^4 S_b(f^2(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0), f^3(\omega, x_0))) &= \psi(4b^4 S_b(f(\omega, x_1), f(\omega, x_1), f(\omega, x_2))) \\ &\leq \Psi(M_f^5(x_1(\omega), x_2(\omega))) - \Phi(M_f^5(x_1(\omega), x_2(\omega))), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} M_f^5(x_1(\omega), x_2(\omega)) &= \max \left\{ \begin{array}{l} S_b(f(\omega, x_0), f(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0)), S_b(f(\omega, x_0), f(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0)), \\ S_b(f^2(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0), f^3(\omega, x_0)) S_b(f(\omega, x_0), f(\omega, x_0), f^3(\omega, x_0)), \\ S_b(f^2(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0)) \end{array} \right\} \\ &= \max \left\{ \begin{array}{l} S_b(f(\omega, x_0), f(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0)), S_b(f^2(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0), f^3(\omega, x_0)), \\ S_b(f(\omega, x_0), f(\omega, x_0), f^3(\omega, x_0)) \end{array} \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} &\psi(4b^4 S_b(f^2(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0), f^3(\omega, x_0))) \\ &\leq \psi \left( \max \left\{ \begin{array}{l} S_b(f(\omega, x_0), f(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0)), S_b(f^2(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0), f^3(\omega, x_0)) \\ S_b(f(\omega, x_0), f(\omega, x_0), f^3(\omega, x_0)) \end{array} \right\} \right) \\ &\quad - \Phi \left( \max \left\{ \begin{array}{l} S_b(f(\omega, x_0), f(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0)), S_b(f^2(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0), f^3(\omega, x_0)) \\ S_b(f(\omega, x_0), f(\omega, x_0), f^3(\omega, x_0)) \end{array} \right\} \right) \\ &\leq \psi \left( \max \left\{ \begin{array}{l} S_b(f(\omega, x_0), f(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0)), S_b(f^2(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0), f^3(\omega, x_0)) \\ S_b(f(\omega, x_0), f(\omega, x_0), f^3(\omega, x_0)) \end{array} \right\} \right). \end{aligned}$$

By the definition of  $\Psi$ , we have that

$$(3.5) \quad S_b(f^2(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0), f^3(\omega, x_0)) \leq \max \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{1}{4b^4} S_b(f(\omega, x_0), f(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0)) \\ \frac{1}{4b^4} S_b(f^2(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0), f^3(\omega, x_0)) \\ \frac{1}{4b^4} S_b(f(\omega, x_0), f(\omega, x_0), f^3(\omega, x_0)) \end{array} \right\}.$$

But

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{1}{4b^4} S_b(f(\omega, x_0), f(\omega, x_0), f^3(\omega, x_0)) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4b^4} [2b S_b(f(\omega, x_0), f(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0)) + b^2 S_b(f^2(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0), f^3(\omega, x_0))] \\ &\leq \max \left\{ \frac{1}{b^3} S_b(f(\omega, x_0), f(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0)), \frac{1}{2b^2} S_b(f^2(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0), f^3(\omega, x_0)) \right\}. \end{aligned}$$



From 3.5 we have that

$$\begin{aligned} & S_b(f^2(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0), f^3(\omega, x_0)) \\ & \leq \max \left\{ \frac{1}{b^3} S_b(f(\omega, x_0), f(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0)), \frac{1}{2b^2} S_b(f^2(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0), f^3(\omega, x_0)) \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

If  $\frac{1}{2b^2} S_b(f^2(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0), f^3(\omega, x_0))$  is maximum, we get a contradiction. Hence

$$\begin{aligned} S_b(f^2(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0), f^3(\omega, x_0)) & \leq \frac{1}{b^3} S_b(f(\omega, x_0), f(\omega, x_0), f^2(\omega, x_0)) \\ & \leq \frac{1}{(b^3)^2} S_b(x_0(\omega), x_0(\omega), f(\omega, x_0)). \end{aligned}$$

Continuing this process, we can conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} S_b(f^n(\omega, x_0), f^n(\omega, x_0), f^{n+1}(\omega, x_0)) & \leq \frac{1}{(b^3)^n} S_b(x_0(\omega), x_0(\omega), f(\omega, x_0)) \\ & \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty. \end{aligned}$$

That is,

$$(3.6) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_b(f^n(\omega, x_0), f^n(\omega, x_0), f^{n+1}(\omega, x_0)) = 0.$$

Now we prove that  $\{f^n(\omega, x_0)\}$  is an  $S_b$ -Cauchy sequence in  $(X, S_b, \Omega)$ . On the contrary, we suppose that  $\{f^n(\omega, x_0)\}$  is not  $S_b$ -Cauchy. Then there exist  $\varepsilon > 0$  and monotonically increasing sequences of natural numbers  $\{m_k\}$  and  $\{n_k\}$  such that  $n_k > m_k$ .

$$(3.7) \quad S_b(f^{m_k}(\omega, x_0), f^{m_k}(\omega, x_0), f^{n_k}(\omega, x_0)) \geq \varepsilon$$

and

$$(3.8) \quad S_b(f^{m_k}(\omega, x_0), f^{m_k}(\omega, x_0), f^{n_k-1}(\omega, x_0)) < \varepsilon.$$

From 3.7 and 3.8, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon & \leq S_b(f^{m_k}(\omega, x_0), f^{m_k}(\omega, x_0), f^{n_k}(\omega, x_0)) \\ & \leq 2b S_b(f^{m_k}(\omega, x_0), f^{m_k}(\omega, x_0), f^{m_k+1}(\omega, x_0)) \\ & \quad + b^2 S_b(f^{m_k+1}(\omega, x_0), f^{m_k+1}(\omega, x_0), f^{n_k}(\omega, x_0)). \end{aligned}$$

So that

$$\begin{aligned} 4b^2 \varepsilon & \leq 8b^3 S_b(f^{m_k}(\omega, x_0), f^{m_k}(\omega, x_0), f^{m_k+1}(\omega, x_0)) \\ & \quad + 4b^4 S_b(f^{m_k+1}(\omega, x_0), f^{m_k+1}(\omega, x_0), f^{n_k}(\omega, x_0)). \end{aligned}$$

Letting  $k \rightarrow \infty$  and applying  $\Psi$  on both sides, we have that

$$\begin{aligned}
(3.9) \quad \psi(4b^2\varepsilon) &\leq \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \psi(4b^4 S_b(f^{m_k+1}(\omega, x_0), f^{m_k+1}(\omega, x_0), f^{n_k}(\omega, x_0))) \\
&= \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \psi(4b^4 S_b(f(\omega, x_{m_k}), f(\omega, x_{m_k}), f(\omega, x_{n_k-1}))) \\
&\leq \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \psi(M_f^5(x_{m_k}(\omega), x_{n_k-1}(\omega))) - \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \phi(M_f^5(x_{m_k}(\omega), x_{n_k-1}(\omega))),
\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
&\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} M_f^5(x_{m_k}(\omega), x_{n_k-1}(\omega)) \\
&= \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \max \left\{ \begin{array}{l} S_b(f^{m_k}(\omega, x_0), f^{m_k}(\omega, x_0), f^{n_k-1}(\omega, x_0)), S_b(f^{m_k}(\omega, x_0), f^{m_k}(\omega, x_0), f^{m_k+1}(\omega, x_0)) \\ S_b(f^{n_k-1}(\omega, x_0), f^{n_k-1}(\omega, x_0), f^{n_k}(\omega, x_0)), S_b(f^{m_k}(\omega, x_0), f^{m_k}(\omega, x_0), f^{n_k}(\omega, x_0)) \\ S_b(f^{n_k-1}(\omega, x_0), f^{n_k-1}(\omega, x_0), f^{m_k+1}(\omega, x_0)) \end{array} \right\} \\
&< \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \max \{ \varepsilon, 0, 0, S_b(f^{m_k}(\omega, x_0), f^{m_k}(\omega, x_0), f^{n_k}(\omega, x_0)), S_b(f^{n_k-1}(\omega, x_0), f^{n_k-1}(\omega, x_0), f^{m_k+1}(\omega, x_0)) \}.
\end{aligned}$$

But

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} S_b(f^{m_k}(\omega, x_0), f^{m_k}(\omega, x_0), f^{n_k}(\omega, x_0)) \leq \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \begin{array}{l} 2bS_b(f^{m_k}(\omega, x_0), f^{m_k}(\omega, x_0), f^{n_k-1}(\omega, x_0)) \\ + b^2S_b(f^{n_k-1}(\omega, x_0), f^{n_k-1}(\omega, x_0), f^{n_k}(\omega, x_0)) \end{array} \right] < 2b\varepsilon.$$

Also

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} S_b(f^{n_k-1}(\omega, x_0), f^{n_k-1}(\omega, x_0), f^{m_k+1}(\omega, x_0)) \leq \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \begin{array}{l} 2bS_b(f^{n_k-1}(\omega, x_0), f^{n_k-1}(\omega, x_0), f^{m_k}(\omega, x_0)) \\ + b^2S_b(f^{m_k}(\omega, x_0), f^{m_k}(\omega, x_0), f^{m_k+1}(\omega, x_0)) \end{array} \right] < 2b^2\varepsilon.$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} M_f^5(x_{m_k}(\omega), x_{n_k-1}(\omega)) &\leq \max \{ \varepsilon, 2b\varepsilon, 2b^2\varepsilon \} \\
&= 2b^2\varepsilon.
\end{aligned}$$

From 3.9, by the definition of  $\Psi$ , we have that

$$4b^2\varepsilon \leq 2b^2\varepsilon,$$

which is a contradiction. Hence  $\{f^n(\omega, x_0)\}$  is an  $S_b$ -Cauchy sequence in complete regular  $S_b$ -metric spaces  $(X, S_b, \preceq)$ . By the completeness of  $(X, S_b)$ , it follows that the sequence  $\{f^n x_0\}$  converges to  $\alpha$  in  $(X, S_b)$ . Thus

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} f^n(\omega, x_0) = \alpha(\omega) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} f^{n+1}(\omega, x_0).$$

Since  $x_n(\omega)$ ,  $\alpha : \omega \rightarrow X$  and  $X$  is regular, it follows that either  $x_n(\omega) \preceq \alpha(\omega)$  or  $\alpha(\omega) \preceq x_n(\omega)$ .

Now we have to prove that  $\alpha(\omega)$  is a random fixed point of  $f$ .

Suppose  $f(\omega, \alpha) \neq \alpha(\omega)$ , by Lemma 10, we have that

$$\frac{1}{2b} S_b(f(\omega, \alpha), f(\omega, \alpha), \alpha(\omega)) \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_b(f(\omega, \alpha), f(\omega, \alpha), f^{n+1}(\omega, x_0)).$$

Now from 3.5 and applying  $\Psi$  on both sides, we have that

$$\begin{aligned} \psi(2b^3 S_b(f(\omega, \alpha), f(\omega, \alpha), \alpha(\omega))) &\leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \psi(4b^4 S_b(f(\omega, \alpha), f(\omega, \alpha), f^{n+1}(\omega, x_0))) \\ (3.10) \qquad \qquad \qquad &\leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \psi(M_f^5(\alpha(\omega), x_n(\omega))) - \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \phi(M_f^5(\alpha(\omega), x_n(\omega))). \end{aligned}$$

Here

$$\begin{aligned} &\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} M_f^5(\alpha(\omega), x_n(\omega)) \\ &= \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \max \left\{ \begin{array}{l} S_b(\alpha(\omega), \alpha(\omega), x_n(\omega)), S_b(\alpha(\omega), \alpha(\omega), f(\omega, \alpha)), S_b(x_n(\omega), x_n(\omega), f(\omega, x_n)) \\ S_b(\alpha(\omega), \alpha(\omega), f(\omega, x_n)), S_b(x_n(\omega), x_n(\omega), f(\omega, \alpha)) \end{array} \right\} \\ &\leq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \max \{0, S_b(\alpha(\omega), \alpha(\omega), f(\omega, \alpha)), 0, 0, S_b(x_n(\omega), x_n(\omega), f(\omega, \alpha))\} \\ &\leq \max \{S_b(\alpha(\omega), \alpha(\omega), f(\omega, \alpha)), b^2 S_b(\alpha(\omega), \alpha(\omega), f(\omega, \alpha))\} \\ &\leq b^3 S_b(f(\omega, \alpha), f(\omega, \alpha), \alpha(\omega)). \end{aligned}$$

Hence from 3.10 we have that

$$\begin{aligned} &\psi(2b^3 S_b(f(\omega, \alpha), f(\omega, \alpha), \alpha(\omega))) \\ &\leq \psi(b^3 S_b(\alpha(\omega), \alpha(\omega), f(\omega, \alpha))) - \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \phi(M_f^5(\alpha(\omega), x_n(\omega))) \\ &\leq \psi(b^3 S_b(f(\omega, \alpha), f(\omega, \alpha), \alpha(\omega))), \end{aligned}$$

which is a contradiction. So that  $\alpha(\omega)$  is a random fixed point of  $f$ .

Suppose that  $\alpha^*(\omega)$  is another random fixed point of  $f$  such that  $\alpha(\omega) \neq \alpha^*(\omega)$ .

Consider

$$\begin{aligned} \psi(4b^4 S_b(\alpha(\omega), \alpha(\omega), \alpha^*(\omega))) &\leq \psi(M_f^5(\alpha(\omega), \alpha^*(\omega))) - \phi(M_f^5(\alpha(\omega), \alpha^*(\omega))) \\ &= \psi(\max \{S_b(\alpha(\omega), \alpha(\omega), \alpha^*(\omega)), S_b(\alpha^*(\omega), \alpha^*(\omega), \alpha(\omega))\}) \\ &\quad - \phi(\max \{S_b(\alpha(\omega), \alpha(\omega), \alpha^*(\omega)), S_b(\alpha^*(\omega), \alpha^*(\omega), \alpha(\omega))\}) \\ &\leq \psi(b S_b(\alpha(\omega), \alpha(\omega), \alpha^*(\omega))), \end{aligned}$$

which is a contradiction. Hence  $\alpha$  is a unique random fixed point of  $f$  in  $(X, S_b)$ .  $\square$

**Example 21.** Let  $X = [0, 1]$  and  $S : X \times X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  by  $S_b(x, y, z) = (|y + z - 2x| + |y - z|)^2$  and by  $a \preceq b \iff a \leq b$ , then  $(X, S_b, \preceq)$  is a complete ordered  $S_b$ -metric space with  $b = 4$ .

Define  $f : \Omega \times X \rightarrow X$  by  $f(\omega, x) = \frac{x}{32\sqrt{2}}(1 - \omega)$ . Also define  $\psi, \phi : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  by  $\psi(t) = t$  and  $\phi(t) = \frac{t}{2}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \psi(4b^4 S_b(f(\omega, x), f(\omega, x), f(\omega, y))) &= 4b^4 (|f(\omega, x) + f(\omega, y) - 2f(\omega, x)| + |f(\omega, x) - f(\omega, y)|)^2 \\ &= 4b^4 \left( 2 \left| \frac{x}{32\sqrt{2}}(1 - \omega) - \frac{y}{32\sqrt{2}}(1 - \omega) \right| \right)^2 \\ &= \frac{4b^4}{8b^4} S_b((\omega, x), (\omega, x), (\omega, y)) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} M_f^5((\omega, x), (\omega, y)) \\ &\leq \psi(M_f^5((\omega, x), (\omega, y))) - \phi(M_f^5((\omega, x), (\omega, y))), \end{aligned}$$

Hence, all the conditions of Theorem 20 are satisfied and 0 is a unique random fixed point of  $f$ .

**Theorem 22.** Let  $(\Omega, f)$  be a measurable space,  $(X, S_b, \preceq)$  be a separable partially ordered  $S_b$  metric space, which is also regular, and let  $f : \Omega \times X \rightarrow X$  satisfy  $(\psi, \phi)$ -contraction with  $i = 3$  or 4. If there exists  $x_0 : \Omega \rightarrow X$  with  $x_0(\omega) \preceq f(\omega, x_0)$ , then  $f$  has a unique random fixed point.

*Proof.* Follows along similar lines of Theorem 20 if we take  $M_f^3(x(\omega), y(\omega))$  or  $M_f^4(x(\omega), y(\omega))$  in place of  $M_f^5(x(\omega), y(\omega))$  in Theorem 20.  $\square$

**Theorem 23.** Let  $(\Omega, f)$  be a measurable space,  $(X, S_b, \preceq)$  be a separable partially ordered  $S_b$  metric space, which is also regular, and let  $f : \Omega \times X \rightarrow X$  satisfy

$$4b^4 S_b(f(\omega, x), f(\omega, x), f(\omega, y)) \leq M_f^i(x(\omega), y(\omega)) - \varphi(M_f^i(x(\omega), y(\omega))),$$

where  $\varphi : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  and  $i = 3$  or 4 or 5. If there exists  $x_0(\omega) \in X$  with  $x_0(\omega) \preceq f(\omega, x_0)$ , then  $f$  has a unique random fixed point in  $X$ .

*Proof.* The proof follows from Theorems 20 and 22 by taking  $\psi(t) = t$  and  $\phi(t) = \varphi(t)$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 24.** Let  $(\Omega, f)$  be a measurable space,  $(X, S_b, \preceq)$  be a separable partially ordered  $S_b$  metric space, which is also regular, and let  $f : \Omega \times X \rightarrow X$  satisfy

$$S_b(f(\omega, x), f(\omega, x), f(\omega, y)) \leq \lambda M_f^i(x(\omega), y(\omega)),$$

where  $\lambda \in [0, \frac{1}{4b^4})$  and  $i = 3, 4, 5$ . If there exists  $x_0(\omega) \in X$  with  $x_0(\omega) \preceq f(\omega, x_0)$ , then  $f$  has a unique random fixed point in  $X$ .

#### 4. APPLICATION TO INTEGRAL EQUATIONS

In this section, we study the existence of a unique solution to an initial value problem as an application to Theorem 20.

**Theorem 25.** Consider the initial value problem

$$(4.1) \quad x^1(t) = T(t, x(t)), \quad t \in I = [0, 1], x(0) = x_0,$$

where  $T : I \times [\frac{x_0}{4}, \infty) \rightarrow [\frac{x_0}{4}, \infty)$  and  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then there exists a unique solution in  $C(I, [\frac{x_0}{4}, \infty))$  for initial value problem 4.1.

*Proof.* The integral equation corresponding to initial value problem 4.1 is

$$x(t) = x_0 + 3b^2 \int_0^t T(s, x(s)) ds.$$

Let  $X = C(I, [\frac{x_0}{4}, \infty))$  and  $S_b(x, y, z) = (|y + z - 2x| + |y - z|)^2$  for  $x, y \in X$ . Define  $\psi, \phi : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  by  $\psi(t) = t, \phi(t) = \frac{5t}{9}$ . Define  $f : X \rightarrow X$  by

$$(4.2) \quad f(x)(t) = \frac{x_0}{3b^2} + \int_0^t T(s, x(s)) ds.$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned} & \psi(4b^4 S_b(fx(t), fx(t), fy(t))) \\ &= 4b^4 \{ |fx(t) + fy(t) - 2fx(t)| + |fx(t) - fy(t)| \}^2 \\ &= 16b^4 |fx(t) - fy(t)|^2 \\ &= \frac{16b^4}{9b^4} \left| x_0 + 3b^2 \int_0^t T(s, x(s)) ds - y_0 - 3b^2 \int_0^t T(s, y(s)) ds \right|^2 \\ &= \frac{16}{9} |x(t) - y(t)|^2 \\ &= \frac{4}{9} S(x, x, y) \\ &\leq \frac{4}{9} M_f^5(x, y) \\ &= \psi(M_f^5(x, y)) - \phi(M_f^5(x, y)), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$M_f^5(x, y) = \max \{S_b(x, x, y), S_b(x, x, fx), S_b(y, y, fy), S_b(x, x, fy), S_b(y, y, fx)\}.$$

It follows from Theorem 20 that  $f$  has a unique fixed point in  $X$ .  $\square$

## 5. APPLICATION TO HOMOTOPY

In this section, we study the existence of a unique solution to homotopy theory.

**Theorem 26.** *Let  $(X, S_b)$  be a complete  $S_b$ -metric space,  $U$  be an open subset of  $X$  and  $\bar{U}$  be a closed subset of  $X$  such that  $U \subseteq \bar{U}$ . Suppose that  $H : \Omega \times \bar{U} \times [0, 1] \rightarrow X$  is an operator such that the following conditions are satisfied:*

(i)  $x(\omega) \neq H(\omega, x, \lambda)$  for each  $x : \Omega \rightarrow \partial U$  and  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$  (here  $\partial U$  denotes the boundary of  $U$  in  $X$ ),

(ii)

$$\psi(4b^4 S_b(H(\omega, x, \lambda), H(\omega, x, \lambda), H(\omega, y, \lambda))) \leq \psi(S_b(x(\omega), x(\omega), y(\omega))) - \phi(S_b(x(\omega), x(\omega), y(\omega)))$$

for all  $x, y : \Omega \rightarrow \bar{U}$  and  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ , where  $\psi : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  is continuous, non-decreasing and  $\phi : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  is lower semi-continuous with  $\phi(t) > 0$  for  $t > 0$ ,

(iii) there exists  $M \geq 0$  such that

$$S_b(H(\omega, x, \lambda), H(\omega, x, \lambda), H(\omega, x, \mu)) \leq M|\lambda - \mu|$$

for every  $x : \Omega \rightarrow \bar{U}$  and  $\lambda, \mu \in [0, 1]$ . Then  $H(\omega, \cdot, 0)$  has a random fixed point if and only if  $H(\omega, \cdot, 1)$  has a random fixed point.

*Proof.* Consider the set

$$A = \{\lambda \in [0, 1] : x = H(\omega, x, \lambda) \text{ for some } x : \Omega \rightarrow U\}.$$

Since  $H(\omega, \cdot, 0)$  has a random fixed point in  $U$ , we have that  $0 \in A$ . So that  $A$  is a non-empty set.

We will show that  $A$  is both open and closed in  $[0, 1]$ , and so, by the connectedness, we have that  $A = [0, 1]$ . As a result,  $H(\omega, \cdot, 1)$  has a random fixed point in  $U$ . First we show that  $A$  is closed

in  $[0, 1]$ . To see this, let  $\{\lambda_n\}_{n=1}^\infty \subseteq A$  with  $\lambda_n \rightarrow \lambda \in [0, 1]$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . We must show that  $\lambda \in A$ . Since  $\lambda_n \in A$  for  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ , there exists  $x_n \in U$  with  $x_n(\omega) = H(\omega, x_n, \lambda_n)$ . Consider

$$\begin{aligned} S_b(x_n(\omega), x_n(\omega), x_{n+1}(\omega)) &= S_b(H(\omega, x_n, \lambda_n), H(\omega, x_n, \lambda_n), H(\omega, x_{n+1}, \lambda_{n+1})) \\ &\leq 2bS_b(H(\omega, x_n, \lambda_n), H(\omega, x_n, \lambda_n), H(\omega, x_{n+1}, \lambda_n)) \\ &\quad + b^2S_b(H(\omega, x_{n+1}, \lambda_n), H(\omega, x_{n+1}, \lambda_n), H(\omega, x_{n+1}, \lambda_{n+1})) \\ &\leq S_b(H(\omega, x_n, \lambda_n), H(\omega, x_n, \lambda_n), H(\omega, x_{n+1}, \lambda_n)) + M|\lambda_n - \lambda_{n+1}|. \end{aligned}$$

Letting  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , we get

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_b(x_n(\omega), x_n(\omega), x_{n+1}(\omega)) \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_b(H(\omega, x_n, \lambda_n), H(\omega, x_n, \lambda_n), H(\omega, x_{n+1}, \lambda_n)) + 0.$$

Since  $\Psi$  is continuous and non-decreasing, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} &\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \psi(4b^4 S_b(x_n(\omega), x_n(\omega), x_{n+1}(\omega))) \\ &\leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \psi(4b^4 S_b(H(\omega, x_n, \lambda_n), H(\omega, x_n, \lambda_n), H(\omega, x_{n+1}, \lambda_n))) \\ &\leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} [\psi(S_b(x_n(\omega), x_n(\omega), x_{n+1}(\omega))) - \phi(S_b(x_n(\omega), x_n(\omega), x_{n+1}(\omega)))] . \end{aligned}$$

By the definition of  $\Psi$ , it follows that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (4b^4 - 1)S_b(x_n(\omega), x_n(\omega), x_{n+1}(\omega)) \leq 0.$$

So that

$$(5.1) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_b(x_n(\omega), x_n(\omega), x_{n+1}(\omega)) = 0.$$

Now we prove that  $\{x_n(\omega)\}$  is an  $S_b$ -Cauchy sequence in  $(X, d_p)$ . On the contrary, suppose that  $\{x_n(\omega)\}$  is not  $S_b$ -Cauchy.

There exists  $\varepsilon > 0$  and monotone increasing sequences of natural numbers  $\{m_k\}$  and  $\{n_k\}$  such that  $n_k > m_k$ ,

$$(5.2) \quad S_b(x_{m_k}(\omega), x_{m_k}(\omega), x_{n_k}(\omega)) \geq \varepsilon$$

and

$$(5.3) \quad S_b(x_{m_k}(\omega), x_{m_k}(\omega), x_{n_k-1}(\omega)) < \varepsilon.$$

From 5.2 and 5.3, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}\varepsilon &\leq S_b(x_{m_k}(\omega), x_{m_k}(\omega), x_{n_k}(\omega)) \\ &\leq 2bS_b(x_{m_k}(\omega), x_{m_k}, x_{m_k+1}(\omega)) + b^2S_b(x_{m_k+1}(\omega), x_{m_k+1}(\omega), x_{n_k}(\omega)).\end{aligned}$$

Letting  $k \rightarrow \infty$  and applying  $\Psi$  on both sides, we have that

$$(5.4) \quad \psi(2b^2\varepsilon) \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \psi(4b^4S_b(x_{m_k+1}(\omega), x_{m_k+1}(\omega), x_{n_k}(\omega))).$$

But

$$\begin{aligned}&\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \psi(4b^4S_b(x_{m_k+1}(\omega), x_{m_k+1}(\omega), x_{n_k}(\omega))) \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \psi(S_b(4b^4H(\omega, x_{m_k+1}, \lambda_{m_k+1}), H(\omega, x_{m_k+1}, \lambda_{m_k+1}), H(\omega, x_{n_k}, \lambda_{n_k}))) \\ &\leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} [\psi(S_b(x_{m_k+1}(\omega), x_{m_k+1}(\omega), x_{n_k}(\omega))) - \phi(S_b(x_{m_k+1}(\omega), x_{m_k+1}(\omega), x_{n_k}(\omega)))] .\end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (4b^4 - 1)S_b(x_{m_k+1}(\omega), x_{m_k+1}(\omega), x_{n_k}(\omega)) \leq 0.$$

Thus

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_b(x_{m_k+1}(\omega), x_{m_k+1}(\omega), x_{n_k}(\omega)) = 0.$$

Hence from 5.4 and the definition of  $\Psi$ , we have that

$$\varepsilon \leq 0,$$

which is a contradiction. Hence  $\{x_n\}$  is an  $S_b$ -Cauchy sequence in  $(X, S_b)$  and, by the completeness of  $(X, S_b)$ , there exists  $\alpha \in U$  with

$$(5.5) \quad \begin{aligned}\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n &= \alpha = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_{n+1}, \\ \psi(2b^3S_b(H(\alpha, \lambda), H(\alpha, \lambda), \alpha)) &\leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \psi(4b^4S_b(H(\alpha, \lambda), H(\alpha, \lambda), H(x_n, \lambda))) \\ &\leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} [\psi(S_b(\alpha, \alpha, x_n)) - \phi(S_b(\alpha, \alpha, x_n))] \\ &= 0.\end{aligned}$$

It follows that  $\alpha = H(\alpha, \lambda)$ . Thus  $\lambda \in A$ . Hence  $A$  is closed in  $[0, 1]$ . Let  $\lambda_0 \in A$ . Then there exists  $x_0 \in U$  with  $x_0 = H(x_0, \lambda_0)$ . Since  $U$  is open, there exists  $r > 0$  such that  $B_{S_b}(x_0, r) \subseteq U$ .

Choose  $\lambda \in (\lambda_0 - \varepsilon, \lambda_0 + \varepsilon)$  such that  $|\lambda - \lambda_0| \leq \frac{1}{M^n} < \varepsilon$ . Then, for

$$x \in \overline{B_p(x_0, r)} = \{x \in X/S_b(x, x, x_0) \leq r + b^2S_b(x_0, x_0, x_0)\},$$



$$\begin{aligned}
& S_b(H(x, \lambda), H(x, \lambda), x_0) \\
&= S_b(H(x, \lambda), H(x, \lambda), H(x_0, \lambda_0)) \\
&\leq 2bS_b(H(x, \lambda), H(x, \lambda), H(x, \lambda_0)) + b^2S_b(H(x, \lambda_0), H(x, \lambda_0), H(x_0, \lambda_0)) \\
&\leq 2bM|\lambda - \lambda_0| + b^2S_b(H(x, \lambda_0), H(x, \lambda_0), H(x_0, \lambda_0)) \\
&\leq \frac{2b}{M^{n-1}} + b^2S_b(H(x, \lambda_0), H(x, \lambda_0), H(x_0, \lambda_0)).
\end{aligned}$$

Letting  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , we obtain

$$S_b(H(x, \lambda), H(x, \lambda), x_0) \leq b^2S_b(H(x, \lambda_0), H(x, \lambda_0), H(x_0, \lambda_0)).$$

Since  $\Psi$  is continuous and non-decreasing, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\Psi(S_b(H(x, \lambda), H(x, \lambda), x_0)) &\leq \Psi(4b^2S_b(H(x, \lambda), H(x, \lambda), x_0)) \\
&\leq \Psi(4b^4S_b(H(x, \lambda_0), H(x, \lambda_0), H(x_0, \lambda_0))) \\
&\leq \Psi(S_b(x, x, x_0)) - \phi(S_b(x, x, x_0)) \\
&\leq \Psi(S_b(x, x, x_0)).
\end{aligned}$$

Since  $\Psi$  is non-decreasing, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
S_b(H(x, \lambda), H(x, \lambda), x_0) &\leq S_b(x, x, x_0) \\
&\leq r + b^2S_b(x_0, x_0, x_0).
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, for each fixed

$$\lambda \in (\lambda_0 - \varepsilon, \lambda_0 + \varepsilon), H(\cdot, \lambda) : \overline{B_p(x_0, r)} \rightarrow \overline{B_p(x_0, r)}.$$

Since also (ii) holds and  $\Psi$  is continuous and non-decreasing and  $\phi$  is continuous with  $\phi(t) > 0$  for  $t > 0$ , then all the conditions of Theorem 26 are satisfied. Thus we deduce that  $H(\cdot, \lambda)$  has a fixed point in  $\overline{U}$ . But this fixed point must be in  $U$  since (i) holds. Thus  $\lambda \in A$  for any  $\lambda \in (\lambda_0 - \varepsilon, \lambda_0 + \varepsilon)$ . Hence  $(\lambda_0 - \varepsilon, \lambda_0 + \varepsilon) \subseteq A$  and therefore  $A$  is open in  $[0, 1]$ . For the reverse implication, we use the same strategy.  $\square$

**Corollary 27.** *Let  $(X, p)$  be a complete partial metric space,  $U$  be an open subset of  $X$  and  $H : \overline{U} \times [0, 1] \rightarrow X$  with the following properties:*

(1)  $x \neq H(x, t)$  for each  $x \in \partial U$  and each  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$  (here  $\partial U$  denotes the boundary of  $U$  in  $X$ ),

(2) there exist  $x, y \in \bar{U}$  and  $\lambda \in [0, 1], L \in [0, \frac{1}{4b^4})$  such that

$$S_b(H(x, \lambda), H(x, \lambda), H(y, \mu)) \leq LS_b(x, x, y),$$

(3) there exists  $M \geq 0$  such that

$$S_b(H(x, \lambda), H(x, \lambda), H(x, \mu)) \leq M|\lambda - \mu|$$

for all  $x \in \bar{U}$  and  $\lambda, \mu \in [0, 1]$ . If  $H(\cdot, 0)$  has a fixed point in  $U$ , then  $H(\cdot, 1)$  has a fixed point in  $U$ .

*Proof.* Proof follows by taking  $\psi(x) = x, \phi(x) = x - Lx$  with  $L \in [0, \frac{1}{4b^4})$  in Theorem (26).  $\square$

## CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interests.

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